

# PLANNING AHEAD

Notes for the Planning and Policy  
Community



US Army Corps  
of Engineers

October 2004

Volume 7, Issue 8

## A Note from the Leader of The Planning Community of Practice

As many of you know, Mr. Kirby "Brad" Fowler retired last month. Brad had a distinguished 30-year career as an economist at the St. Louis District and the Headquarters, and, during the past seven years, as the editor of *Planning Ahead*. We congratulate Brad on his graduation to a new phase of life and wish him and his family continued health and happiness.

This issue of *Planning Ahead* initiates our new editor - Ms. Monica Franklin of the Institute for Water Resources. Monica majored in Computer Information Systems at Hampton University and has been with IWR for almost two years. She has been involved in a diverse number of IWR projects, including production of the quarterly Regulatory Newsletter. Monica will bring a fresh perspective and energy to an important component of the Planning Excellence Program. Please join me in welcoming Monica to her new assignment!

William Dawson  
Leader, Planning Community of  
Practice

## Words from the Editor

To the Corps planning community and all readers, I am extremely excited about becoming your new editor of *Planning Ahead*. It is great to be part of a long-lasting effort to maintain

constant communication and sharing of information among Corp planners. I have the opportunity to help continue the legacy of *Planning Ahead* and enhance the sharing of experiences and knowledge from one planner to the next. With this issue, I challenge all readers to think creatively and read about all the exciting suggestions we would like to include in future issues. With your help, I am committed to making *Planning Ahead* fresh, fun, and informative.



Monica Franklin, Editor  
Institute for Water Resources  
Monica.A.Franklin@usace.army.mil  
703-428-7295

## Introduction

*Planning Ahead* has served as a reputable source among readers for great Corps planning news and information. In an effort to further its invaluable quality, long-time subscribers and other Corps employees have been diligent in making valuable suggestions and comments to enhance the content in *Planning Ahead*. We would like to thank everyone for their vested interest and taking the time to give thought to new and creative ideas.

We're going to build on some of your ideas, and so you'll see changes in *Planning Ahead* over the next few issues. First, we'll continue to

## Featured Articles

Top 20 Inland US Ports for 2003 (Preliminary).....	2
Initial Report Prepared for Executive Order 13287, "Preserve America".....	3
The Meaning of the Word "Is" Returns in an Entirely New Context.....	3
Benefits of an HQ Developmental Assignment.....	4
Gilbert F. White National Flood Policy Forum--2004 Assembly.....	5
Corps' National Planning Center of Expertise for Flood Damage Reduction.....	5
Update on Water Resources Development Act 2004.....	6
New Program Manager.....	6
Other Corporate CoP News.....	6
COE Master's Program in Water Resources Planning and Management.....	6

## Monthly Columns

Monthly Calendar.....	6
Planning Leaders' Corner.....	7
Instructions for Contributors.....	8
Subscribing to <i>Planning Ahead</i> .....	8

provide feature articles with the latest news and stories of interest, so please keep sending your articles to Monica Franklin at Monica.A.Franklin@usace.army.mil or Harry Kitch at Harry.E.Kitch@usace.army.mil.

Second, we will be carrying a number of recurring monthly columns that

focus on items of particular interest to the Planning Community of Practice. Each column has a "reporter" responsible for a monthly contribution. Monthly columns suggested to date are:

**Announcements.** This column will contain a Hail/Farewell section dedicated to new, resigning, and retiring planners. There will also be a "Want Ads" section announcing job openings, and an "In Search Of..." section for those looking for information or advice on a particular topic.

**New Guidance.** This column will highlight new ER's, EC's, EP's, and any updates to existing guidance. From here you will be able to quickly link to guidance on websites.

**Planning Leaders' Corner.** We seek to feature one planning chief in every issue. This section will include a photo, biographical information, and career advice to new planners in the Corps. Ken Orth of the Institute for Water Resources will be the reporter for this column.

**Planning Associates Update.** Many

of you may feel this section is a must, and we definitely agree. There are a number of ways to highlight the PA section and it can vary from month to month. We would like to feature one PA in every issue, providing their experiences in the PA program and other information. Joy Muncy of Institute for Water Resources will be the reporter for this column.

**Planning Technical Specialists.** This section will profile one of our Planning Technical Specialists, often called "tech 13s" to show the diversity and depth of technical planning skills and knowledge across the Corps. Susan Durden of Institute for Water Resources will be the reporter for this column.

**Planning CoP Calendar.** This section will list planning PROSPECT courses, planning events, and seminars for at least the next 3 months.

**Non-Structural News.** Larry Buss, Chairperson of the National Non-Structural/Flood Proofing Committee, will report on all-things nonstructural across the Corps.

**Masters Program.** The Masters Program. This column will keep you informed about current events at the Corps-sponsored masters degree programs in water resources planning and management at select universities around the nation. Darrell Nolton of the Institute for Water Resources is the program manager and will report in this column.

**Center of Expertise.** Planning Centers of Expertise. The Centers were established in 2003, and we'll feature profiles of the Centers and their activities every month. Clark Frentzen kicks-off this column with news from the Flood Damage Reduction Planning Center of Expertise, and Ted Hillyer of the Institute for Water Resources will report in future columns.

If you have an idea for another new column (and would like to be its reporter) please contact Monica Franklin at [Monica.A.Franklin@usace.army.mil](mailto:Monica.A.Franklin@usace.army.mil) or Harry Kitch at [Harry.E.Kitch@usace.army.mil](mailto:Harry.E.Kitch@usace.army.mil)

Top 20 U.S. Inland Ports ranked by CY 2003 Trip Ton-Miles (Preliminary)							
Rank	Port Name	Tons			Trip Ton-Miles <sup>2</sup>		
		Average CY 98-02	CY 03	Percent Diff.	Average CY 98-02	CY 03	Percent Diff.
		(Millions)			(Billions)		
1	Huntington – Tristate <sup>3</sup>	NA	77.5	NA	NA	26.4	NA
2	St. Louis, MO and IL	33.0	32.4	-1.6	24.6	24.2	-1.8
3	Pittsburgh, PA	53.0	41.4	-21.8	18.3	16.0	-12.9
4	Memphis, TN	17.1	18.1	5.7	7.2	8.5	17.7
5	Cincinnati, OH	13.5	11.8	-12.7	9.0	8.2	-9.4
6	St. Paul, MN	5.2	5.2	-0.5	5.2	4.8	7.7
7	Louisville, KY	8.7	8.5	-2.9	3.6	2.9	-19.8
8	Mount Vernon, IN	3.7	3.9	4.1	3.4	2.7	-20.2
9	Tulsa, Port of Catoosa, OK	2.1	2.2	4.6	2.1	2.2	3.4
10	Guntersville, AL	2.3	2.1	-10.6	1.9	1.8	-5.8
11	Nashville, TN	4.5	4.0	-11.0	2.0	1.6	-20.1
12	Vicksburg, MS	5.2	3.7	-28.4	2.1	1.5	-29.8
13	Chattanooga, TN	2.8	2.8	1.8	1.7	1.4	-17.6
14	Greenville, MS	3.0	3.1	3.9	1.3	1.3	3.7
15	Minneapolis, MN	1.7	1.7	0.5	1.5	1.1	-23.8
16	Helena, AR	1.8	1.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	3.3
17	Lake Providence, LA	0.5	0.8	52.4	0.2	0.4	66.9
18	Rosedale, MS	0.6	0.7	21.9	0.3	0.3	12.2
19	Knoxville, TN	0.3	0.3	-3.2	0.3	0.3	-11.4
20	Natchez, MS	0.6	0.5	-20.5	0.3	0.2	-12.6

## Featured Articles

### **Top 20 Inland U.S. Ports for 2003 (Preliminary)**

*Debra Jackson, CEIWR-NDC-C*

Trip ton-miles for an inland port is a measure that indicates the contribution that an inland port makes to the whole waterway system. The methodology used to compute trip ton-miles for an inland port is as follows: first, each commercial cargo-carrying vessel that was loaded or unloaded at the port is identified; next, the product of the tons times the total trip-miles (the distance from the vessel's point of loading to its point of unloading) for all inland vessel trips from that port are summed. This measure takes into account the distances traveled on all the waterways traversed. The following table ranks the top 20 inland ports by their CY 2003 trip ton-miles and also displays the tonnage at each port. The number one port in 2003, Huntington-Tristate, had 8 percent more trip ton-miles and more than twice the tonnage of number 2 ranked St. Louis.

*For more information on this new measure contact Debra Jackson at: (504)862-1472  
Debra.A.Jackson@usace.army.mil.*

### **Initial Report Prepared for Executive Order 13287, "Preserve America"**

*Paul Rubenstein, CECW-P*

On 3 March 2003, President George W. Bush issued Executive Order (EO) 13287, "Preserve America," to reaffirm his Administration's commitment to Federal stewardship of historic properties, and to promote intergovernmental cooperation and partnership for their preservation and contemporary use. Section 3, Improving Federal Agency Planning and Accountability, requires the development of reports on Federal

agency historic preservation programs for submission to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and the Department of the Interior (DOI).

In cooperation with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Major Subordinate Commands, HQUSACE has completed an Initial Report for the ACHP and DOI. This Initial Report addresses the requirements of sections 3(a) and 3(b) as they apply to Army Civil Works activities implemented by the Corps. Section 3(a) requires an assessment of the current status of historic properties, their general condition, management needs, and steps underway or planned to meet those management needs. Section 3(b) stipulates that agencies shall review their regulations, management policies, and operating procedures for compliance with sections 110 and 111 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

The Corps section 3(a) assessment includes a review of properties listed in or formally determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. It provides examples of the Corps commitment to administering heritage assets for economic development and public awareness such as Kansas City District's Kanopolis Lake Legacy Trail, Pittsburgh District's Johnstown, Pennsylvania Urban Greenway Trail and St. Louis District's efforts to preserve the historic French settlement of St. Genevieve, Missouri.

The section 3(a) assessment also contains the Corps response to a series of questions developed by the ACHP for consideration in this initial submittal. The questions are designed to elicit information on agency planning and accountability. Cultural resource POCs in the Major Subordinate Commands (MSCs) were asked to review these questions and offer information and insights based on their understanding of activities in Corps Commands. Their input to HQUSACE assisted in the development of comprehensive responses for the Initial Report.

The section 3(b) narrative for the Corps response centered on two Engineer Regulations that are most relevant to sections 110 and 111 of the NHPA. They are ER 1105-2-100, "The Planning Guidance Notebook," and ER 1130-2-540, "Environmental Stewardship." The HQUSACE analysis of these two regulations concluded they are "comprehensive, consistent with statutory authority, legally uncontested and entirely adequate to address the agency's need for National Historic Preservation Act guidance."

The Corps report concludes with a review of measures to institutionalize the aims and interests inherent in the EO with a minimum of cost and liability to the agency. Some of these include a Preserve America teaching module for Corps New Commanders courses, top-down encouragement for Corps Commands to develop annual nominations for the Presidential Preserve America Awards Program and devoting the two-day agenda of the 2005 Cultural Resources Program Review (Salt Lake City, March 2005) to Preserve America seminars, discussions and lectures.

The Corps Preserve America Initial Report has been provided to cultural resource POCs in the MSCs and is also available from Paul Rubenstein, HQUSACE.

### **The Meaning of the Word "Is" Returns in an Entirely New Context**

*Paul Rubenstein, CECW-P*

Several years ago, during testimony in a criminal probe, President Bill Clinton discussed the meaning of the word "is" in the context that it was being used by the interrogator. His comments on the meaning of "is" made headlines. Once again, the meaning of the word "is" is making headlines, this time in association with the ancient human remains known as Kennewick Man, or to Indian tribes as the Ancient One.

In February 2004, the U.S. Ninth



Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed a lower Federal District Court ruling in the matter of *Bonnichsen et al. v. United States*, otherwise known as the Kennewick Man case. The human remains known as Kennewick Man were discovered along the edge of the Columbia River, near Kennewick, Washington. The human remains were located on lands administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District. In September 1996, Walla Walla District asserted the remains to be Native American as defined in the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) and prepared to return the find to a coalition of federally recognized Indian tribes. A group of anthropologists and archeologists sued the Federal government, holding to the position that Walla Walla's application of NAGPRA to these remains was inappropriate petitioned the Federal District Court for the right to study the skeleton.

The Bonnichsen case was highly complex, with one of the pivotal arguments surrounding NAGPRA's definition of Native American. That being, "of, or relating to, a tribe, people, or culture that is indigenous to the United States." The lower court found, and the appeals court affirmed that the word "is" in the definition of Native American must be a specific contrivance of Congress designed to ensure that human remains that are Native American and subject to NAGPRA evidence some connection to a tribe, people, or culture that exist in some form within what is considered the United States. Considering Kennewick Man's extreme antiquity and an absence of cultural indicators associated with the remains, the courts found there could not be a connection between the ancient skeleton and contemporary Indian cultures. Therefore, Kennewick Man could not be considered Native American as defined by NAGPRA. He is not subject to the provisions of that statute.

Now comes Congress, specifically Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-Colorado), Chairman of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee. Senator Campbell has introduced legislation that would add five letters to the defini-

tion of Native American that could change a lot. The legislation calls for the addition of the words "or was", following the word "is" in the NAGPRA definition of Native American. Adding those two words to the definition could break the linkage of human remains to contemporary cultures. Ancient human remains could then be considered Native American without a direct link to today's peoples.

The lawyers representing the scientists in the Bonnichsen case have complained bitterly in newspaper accounts. It is unlikely though that the legislation will succeed in the short time remaining in this session of Congress and Senator Campbell is retiring soon. He won't be around to reintroduce the measure next session. It is also unlikely that the definitional language could be retroactively applied to Kennewick Man. But for now, the word "is" lies at the center of a debate that is, or was, the consuming subject for a number of us in the Corps for many years.

### ***Benefits of an HQ Developmental Assignment***

*Bruce Carlson, CECW-P*



General Accountability Office (GAO) Building, home of Corps HQ.

I recently asked two people about the value of their recent HQ developmental assignments:

- Ed Lambert (MVM) in Office of Water Project Review
- Heather Burke (SAJ) in the Natural Resources Management Community of Practice

Here's a combined list of what they had to say about their experiences in terms of professional development, what

they'll bring back to their home district, and personal experiences.

#### Professional Development

- Greater knowledge of interrelationships among HQ, ASA, OMB and Congress (helps to understand budget priorities, federal interest, etc.)
- Exposure to an array of different projects at various levels of development (greater appreciation of what's going on in the Corps across the nation)
- Comprehensive overview into all facets of the Natural Resources Management CoP
- Contacts in HQ (I'm not just a faceless person on Outlook anymore)
- Report reviews introduced me to various policy issues
- Introduction to the different review levels (had never participated in a Feasibility Scoping Meeting before)
- Better understanding of the budget process
- A certain credibility for being chosen to participate in this program

#### What I'll Take Back to District

- Greater appreciation of HQ policy review role (think I can help avoid some pitfalls with early coordination)
- Ability to explain why some things happen the way they do (The field just sees the end product of decision made by HQ, not the process that goes into the decisions.)
- Contacts at HQ - knowledge of who the "go-to" people are when we want something done (I now know folks at HQ--will be more comfortable giving them a call concerning policy issue)
- Have become better/faster reviewer (also know major things to look for)
- Advocacy for the HQ staff and their devotion to the program (builds better relationships)

#### Personal Experiences

- Great area to visit--so much history
- My family was able to enjoy an extended vacation (Note - I would recommend to folks coming to HQ for a temp assignment to make arrangements for their families to stay at least part of the time.)
- I view the people in my CoP as friends now, not just as the "group in HQ"
- I've been able to spend good quality time with some old friends from high school and college while living here.
- It's been so nice to be a local, not a

tourist on a tight schedule. You really get to know the ins and outs and all the wonderful quirks of the city.

·Outstanding educational experience for my daughters (these are Ed's daughters, for those keeping score...)

·Washington, DC is a great place to live! I love all the culture and events happening every day.

### ***Gilbert F. White National Flood Policy Forum--2004 Assembly***

*Larry S. Buss - CENWO-ED-H*

The topic for discussion, recommendations, and ultimate policy direction for the 2004 Forum was "Reducing Flood Losses: Is the 1% Chance [100-year] Flood Standard Sufficient"? The Forum overall focus was on the following four main topics:

- History and use of the 1% chance flood standard.
- Tools and technology as applied to the 1% chance flood standard
- Implementation of the 1% chance flood standard
- Societal implications of the 1% chance flood standard

The Forum discussion further focused on the following specific areas:

- What is the purpose of setting a standard?

- How well has the 1% chance flood standard met the purpose considering technology, policy and legal issues, and implementation/effectiveness?
- What are possible options for change to the 1% chance flood standard or to change from the 1% chance flood standard?
- What are obstacles to making these changes?
  - What are the roles of Federal, State, and local governments, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector in implementing these changes?

The Forum concluded with the following as examples for future consideration:

- Use the 500-year as the flood plain

management standard for an expanded list of critical items

- Enhance the current NFIP standards by requiring flood insurance for areas protected by levees, develop floodways that do not result in an increase in base flood elevation [BFE], use future conditions for flood plain management, use the BFE plus freeboard as the minimum standard for first floor elevation, consider natural and beneficial values of flood plains.

- Use vertical risk of flooding for flood insurance purposes
- Research use of multiple standards based on the consequence of residual risk
- Research better ways to educate all sectors in the risk of living in flood plains.
- Adopt comprehensive flood plain/watershed management

The report will serve to focus on what needs to be done both in research and practice to move the nation further in reducing flood damage.

### ***Corps' National Planning Center of Expertise for Flood Damage Reduction***

*Clark Frentzen - CESPD-RP*

In August 2003, the Corp's Director of Civil Works directed the establishment of national planning Centers to enhance the Corps' planning capability for inland navigation, deep-draft navigation, ecosystem restoration, hurricane and storm damage reduction, and flood damage reduction. The Centers are all part of our national initiative to improve the quality and effectiveness of the water resources planning program, referred to as the Planning Excellence Program. This program includes planner training and development, planner leadership development, quality assurance/quality control, Centers of specialized planning expertise and other national initiatives to improve planning effectiveness.

As part of this Planning Excellence Program, the South Pacific Division was assigned the responsibility for establishing the National Planning Center of Expertise for Flood Damage Reduction. This Center operates as a 'virtual team', supported by the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division (LRD), Northwestern Division, Mississippi Valley Division, the Institute for Water Resources, the HQUSACE Flood Damage Reduction Business Line, the Hydrologic Engineering Center, the Engineer Research and Development Center, the National Non-Structural and Flood Proofing Committee and other supplemental virtual team members. With this virtual team, we have found that resources can be pooled to provide a significantly higher level of specialized planning capability than could otherwise be obtained at either the local or regional levels. The Center is being developed concurrent with national Centers for other mission areas, and shares lessons learned with the other Centers as they evolve.

This past year the Center members met and approved the Management Plan, provided technical support to Corps Districts, continued with support to the Corps Planning Core Curriculum Courses, initiated the development of the Center's web site and established a list of potential future activities. Other initiatives currently in progress by the Center include the development and delivery of the flood damage reduction module for the Planning Associates Program, participation in the revisions to the NED manual and the development of a technical review guide for flood damage reduction

For more information on the Center, please contact Clark Frentzen at 415-977-8164 or [cfrentzen@spd.usace.army.mil](mailto:cfrentzen@spd.usace.army.mil)

## Update on Water Resources Development Act 2004

Ken Lichtman, CEIWR-GW

The Congress typically authorizes Corps projects as part of its consideration of a Water Resources Development Act (WRDA). WRDAs also contain project modifications, policy guidance, and directives to undertake investigations of water-related issues. The last WRDA was enacted in 2000 (Public Law 106-541). As the current session of Congress draws closer to its scheduled recess prior to the November 2nd election, the status of completion of action on a 2004 version of a WRDA remains unclear.

The House of Representatives passed its version of a WRDA, HR 2557, in September 2003. Links to the text of HR 2557 and other versions of WRDA legislation is available at the end of this article. The Senate prepared a version of a WRDA, S 2554, in June 2004. Over the summer, the Senate prepared a substitute version of a WRDA bill, S 2773. The Senate has placed S 2773 on the legislative calendar of the Senate but, as of this writing, has not yet taken up legislative action on the bill.

In addition to the traditional role of serving as an authorization vehicle for the construction of projects, this year's versions of the WRDA bills, contain a number of items of relevance to the Corps planning community, including the establishment of requirements for "independent peer review" of projects (section 2033 of HR 2557 and Section 1010 of S 2773), the establishment of a "Water Resources Planning Council" (section 1009 of S 2773), and new requirements associated with fish and wildlife mitigation (section 2030 of HR 2557 and section 1011 of S 2773).

Links to proposed WRDA legislation:

HR 2557:

[http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=108\\_cong\\_bill&docid=f:h2557rfs.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=108_cong_bill&docid=f:h2557rfs.txt.pdf).

S 2554:

[http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=108\\_cong\\_bill&docid=f:s2554is.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=108_cong_bill&docid=f:s2554is.txt.pdf).

S 2773:

[http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=108\\_cong\\_bill&docid=f:s2773rs.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=108_cong_bill&docid=f:s2773rs.txt.pdf)

### New Program Manager for the USACE Corporate Community of Practice PDT

Lee Campbell, CEPG

Lee Campbell is the new PM for the Corps Corporate Community of Practice PDT. His immediate objectives are:

- CoP Policy Publication
- CCoP PMP Revision
- CoP Current Baseline
- Creation of tools facilitating CoP

### Other Corporate CoP News

Lee Campbell, CEPG

The pace of CoP activity is picking up. Safety CoP had a successful startup in Seattle, WA. Logistics CoP will have its startup meeting in October. A new CoP, History, has been approved and brings the USACE total to 25. Paul

Walker will lead this CoP.

A Groove and Tomoye rollout schedule has been developed by Corporate Information and training dates have been set up. Dave Rowson is leading that effort.

There is an Knowledge Services InfoFair on Thursday, 28 October 2004 in HQ. Mr. Eric Lesser from IBM's Institute of Business Value will talk about the Return On Investment (ROI) of Communities of Practice in the business world.

The preliminary draft Community of Practice policy has been sent out for review. This document will be turned around by the end of September for formal review.

Lee can be reached at 202-761-7571.

### COE Master's Program in Water Resources Planning and Management

The COE Master's Program was created to help fill the increasing void created by experienced planners leaving the Corps of Engineers. The program is designed to provide a well-rounded interdisciplinary program for supporting management level positions in Planning. The interdisciplinary nature of the program makes it suitable

Name	Organization	University	Year of Admission
Mutschler, Patrica	Headquarters	Johns Hopkins	2002
Dawedeit, Julie	Jacksonville District (SAD)	Florida	2003
DeFreese, Amy	Sacramento District (SPD)	Arizona	2003
Hartbarger, Geneva	Nashville District (LRD)	Arizona	2003
Kalli, George	Alaska District (POD)	Arizona	2003
Lamkin, Kenneth	Louisville District (LRD)	Southern Illinois	2003
Phillips, Shawn	Memphis District (MVD)	Southern Illinois	2003
Anslow, Patricia	Little Rock District (SWD)	Johns Hopkins	2004
Aya-Ay, Jonathan	Huntington District (LRD)	Johns Hopkins	2004
Estergard, Scott	Phoenix Field Office (SPD)	Arizona	2004
Hollis, Phillip	Vicksburg District (MVD)	Florida	2004
Jester, Cynthia	Headquarters	Johns Hopkins	2004
Lewis, Andrea	St. Louis District (MVD)	Southern Illinois	2004
Pamperein, Joah	Baltimore District (NAD)	Johns Hopkins	2004
Weekley, Sharon	Huntington District (LRD)	Southern Illinois	2004

Individuals enrolled in Masters Program.



for other functional areas as well. The Director of Civil Works strongly supports the program and has challenged each MSC to support at least 2 students in the program each year. The program started in 2002 with one registered student. Six students registered in 2003 and eight have registered in 2004. The following table identifies the individuals enrolled in the Master's program by University. The enrollment numbers achieved to date do not constitute a critical mass. Thus, more efforts and incentives are being considered to encourage enrollment in future years. If you have an interest in the program, and furthering your education and career opportunities in the Corps, please visit the website at: <http://www.usace.army.mil/mastersdegree/index.htm> and or call the program manager: Darrell Nolton at IWR 703-428-9084.

## **Economic Guidance for fiscal year 2005**

*Ted Hillyer - CEIWR-GR*

The Federal Interest Rates for use in Corps activities for fiscal year 2005 have been received from the U.S. Treasury. These rates are:

- Project Evaluation and Formulation Rate (Discount Rate): 5-3/8% (as limited to ¼% rate change)
- Water Supply Act of 1958, section 301(b): 8.077%
- Water Supply Act of 1958 as amended by WRDA 86: 5-1/8%
- Hydropower: 5-1/8%

These rates can be found at the Department of the Treasury website: <http://www.publicdebt.treas.gov/opd/opdirarmy.htm>

The data to use for Current Normalized Prices can be found at the Department of Agriculture website: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/data/NormalizedPrices/>

These data along with the Current State and County Income Index Data, Current Eligibility Factor Formula (Ability to Pay) will soon be available

as Economic Guidance Memorandums published on the CECW-P homepage at:

[http://www.usace.army.mil/civilworks/cecw/General\\_guidance/guidance.htm](http://www.usace.army.mil/civilworks/cecw/General_guidance/guidance.htm)

For additional information you may contact Ted Hillyer at: Theodore.M.Hillyer@usace.army.mil

## **Monthly Calendar**

**Planning Advisory Board Conference call.....**second and fourth Fridays every month.

**Planning Ahead submission deadline.....**third Thursday every month

**Planning Advisory Board.....**19-21 October 2004, Seattle

**2004 Planning Associates graduate.....**29 October 2004, Washington

**2005 Planning Associates orientation.....**November 2004

**Request for 2004 Planning Awards nominations.....**December 2004

**2004 Planning Awards nominations due...February 2005**

**2004 Planning Award winners selected.....**April 2005

**Planning Centers of Expertise Leaders' Meeting.....**Spring 2005

**Request for 2006 Planning Associate nominations.....**June 2005

If you would like to post an item to the monthly calendar, please contact Monica Franklin at Monica.A.Franklin@usace.army.mil.

## **Planning Leaders' Corner: Robert Pace, Baltimore District**

*by Ken Orth, CEIWR-GW*



Welcome to the Planning Chiefs' Corner. Each month the Corner will focus on a leader in the Planning Community of Practice. We'll

tell you something about their background and have them respond to a few questions of interest. This month's Planning leader is Mr. Robert Pace, Chief of Planning in the Baltimore District.

### **Biography**

Mr. Robert Pace has more than 27 years of environmental management, water resources planning, and consulting experience in the Federal government and private sector. He rejoined the Baltimore District in February 2001 and became Chief of the Planning in June 2004.

Prior to this position, Bob worked for EA Engineering, Science and Technology for 10-years as an environmental consultant. During his tenure at EA, he served in various managerial, project management and technical capacities, and worked for numerous federal agencies including the Air Force, Navy, Air National Guard, Headquarters Army, Defense Logistics Agency, National Park Service, and the Tennessee Valley Authority. His technical strengths include water resources and environmental planning, pollution prevention and environmental regulatory compliance, and preparation of National Environmental Policy Act documents.

Previously with the Army Corps of Engineers, Bob served for 11 years as a water resources planner for the Baltimore District and for 2 years at the Corps' Headquarters. During this period, he managed or assisted on numerous civil and military environmental

projects and served as the District point of contact for development of the first Chesapeake Bay 3-D time-variable hydrodynamic and water quality model. In 1982, he completed one-year of residence study at the US Army Corps of Engineers, Board of Rivers and Harbor, earning a Planning Associates Certificate.

Bob has Master's Degrees from Binghamton University and the Johns Hopkins University in Geography and Business Management, respectively.

We asked Bob to reflect on his career through the following questions. Here are his responses:

***What is the most exciting thing for you about being a leader in the Planning Community of Practice?***

I am absolutely impressed by the quality of many of the young planners that have joined the ranks of the Corps of Engineers in recent years. Many people talk about the aging workforce and predictions of mass retirements over the coming years. What they don't talk about are the very bright, highly energetic, and promising young planners that have joined the Corps and the valuable contributions that they are already making. Many of these planners come to us with advance degrees, and with knowledge of state-of-the-art tools that can help us meet our customer's needs...watershed evaluation tools are a prime example of this. I am proud to be associated with these individuals and continue to learn from them. Their presence and dedication reminds me of my responsibility to do whatever I can to support them, and to keep them challenged so they grow

within our organization and continue to contribute for many years to come.

***What has been the most significant event or phase in your career, and why?***

The most significant phase in my career was my departure from the Corps in 1990 and 10-year hiatus working as an environmental consultant in the private sector. While I "lost" ten years as a government employee, I gained an incredible amount of practical and useful experience in the private sector that has served me well and has made me a better public servant. Working in the private sector taught me to be highly customer focused with always have an eye towards the future...that you can take nothing for granted and must build your future by listening closely to your customer and always working to solve their problems. This holds true in the Corps of Engineers today. Corps employees at all levels serve various customers (internal and external) and they must build strategic relationships with them through disciplined and conscious effort. In the Civil Works program where we cost-share mostly all projects and studies we must be focused on our customers needs and earn their trust and confidence to be successful. We do this by listening and performing well.

***What is the best piece of career advice that you would like to pass along to aspiring planners?***

Take full responsibility for your career decisions. That is to say, be proactive and take full advantage of career-broadening opportunities that are available. If you are unhappy with what

you are doing or feel that you cannot contribute, constructively seek to improve that situation. Ultimately, you are responsible for your career and need to make changes to follow your passion and interests. Don't let yourself be a victim.

Bob Pace can be reached at 410-962-4900 or Robert.S.Pace@usace.army.mil.

***Instructions for Contributors to Planning Ahead***

This newsletter is designed to improve the communication among all the planners and those we work with throughout the Corps. We hope that future editions will have mostly information and perspective from those of you on the front lines in the districts. We hope that these notes become a forum for you to share your experiences to help all of us learn from each other. We can't afford to reinvent the wheel in each office. We welcome your thoughts, questions, success stories, and bitter lessons so that we can share them on these pages. The articles should be short (2-3 paragraphs) except in some cases where you just have to say more.

- Use MS WORD
- Use "normal" style
- Use Times New Roman font, 11 point
- All text should be left justified with start of each paragraph indented by one tab stop.
- Each article should have short title with only initial letter of each word capitalized
- Following each title should be author's name and organization
- Last line should be contact information (phone number or e-mail address).

***Subscribing to Planning Ahead***

*To subscribe or to our distribution list, Send an e-mail message to majordomo@lst.usace.army.mil with no subject line and only a single line of text in the message body.*

*That single line of text should be: "subscribe ls-planningahead"*

*To obtain a 'help' file, send only the word 'help' in the text of the message (nothing in the subject line) and address it to majordomo@usace.army.mil .*

To read past issues of Planning Ahead, visit: <http://www.usace.army.mil/inet/functions/cw/cecwp/news/news1.htm>